DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR

June 12, 2015

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi,
President
and Members of the Senate
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Joseph M. Souki, Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives Twenty-Eighth State Legislature State Capitol, Room 431 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Souki, and Members of the Legislature:

This is to inform you that on June 12, 2015, the following bill was signed into law:

HB850 HD1 SD2 CD1

RELATING TO THE AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE

ACT 105 (15)

Sincerely,

DAVID Y. IGE

Governor, State of Hawai'i

RECEIVED SENATE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT RECEIVED THE SENATE CLERK'S OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

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ORIGINAL

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE, 2015
STATE OF HAWAII

ACT 1 0 5 H.B. NO. H.D. 1 S.D. 2 C.D. 1

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE.

## BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the University of 2 Hawaii college of tropical agriculture and human resources is in 3 critical need of personnel for its cooperative extension service 4 to improve and strengthen Hawaii's sustainability in agriculture 5 through educational programs. The college houses a cooperative 6 extension service that partners with federal, state, and county 7 governments, with the responsibility to provide science-based 8 information and education programs in agriculture, natural 9 resources, and human resources. The extension offices are 10 located throughout the State, with roughly twenty-five extension agents statewide. The cooperative extension service provides 11 12 valuable tools that the public can use to strengthen communities 13 and sustain Hawaii's agricultural economy. Extension personnel 14 provide various services to the communities within each county, 15 ranging from individual consultations, educational workshops, 16 and short courses on relevant subjects, including agriculture,

## H.B. NO. 850 H.D. 1 S.D. 2

- 1 home economics, family living, 4-H and other youth activities,
- 2 nutrition, and health.
- 3 The legislature also finds that, over the past twenty
- 4 years, the college of tropical agriculture and human resources'
- 5 cooperative extension service has experienced a forty-three per
- 6 cent decrease in extension agents who service the various
- 7 counties, including a twenty-seven per cent decrease since 2008.
- 8 Many of the community services that the extension service offers
- 9 have been cut as a result of the decrease.
- 10 The purpose of this Act is to address the budgetary
- 11 shortfalls experienced by the University of Hawaii college of
- 12 tropical agriculture and human resources' cooperative extension
- 13 service by appropriating moneys for critical unfunded positions.
- 14 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
- 15 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$350,000 or so much
- 16 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2015-2016 for four
- 17 full-time equivalent (4.00 FTE) positions in the cooperative
- 18 extension service administered by the University of Hawaii
- 19 college of tropical agriculture and human resources; provided
- 20 that the positions shall be deemed critical to accomplishing the
- 21 purpose of the cooperative extension service program; and

- 1 provided further that one position shall be assigned to each
- 2 county.
- 3 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the University of
- 4 Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.
- SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2015. 5

APPROVED this 12 day of JUN , 2015

Amil y Seg GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII